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**STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN URBAN DISTRICT  
COUNCIL.**

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**REPORT**

of the

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

and the

**SANITARY INSPECTOR.**

\_\_\_\_\_

**FOR THE YEAR 1954.**



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COUNCIL.**

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# STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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*Chairman :* MRS. ANNIE PRATT.

*Vice-Chairman :* MR. H. E. ROSE.

## *Members of the Council :*

Mr. R. F. Abbotts	Mr. H. Prescott
Mr. J. W. Bullock	Mr. R. G. Ready
Mr. W. A. Coley, J.P.	Mr. E. A. Robinson
Mr. A. Cook	Mr. A. J. Seabright
Mr. D. A. Evans	Mr. A. Waldron
Mr. P. G. Hopcroft, J.P.	Mr. E. R. Kemp
Mr. S. James	

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## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL :

### *Medical Officer of Health :*

DR. R. W. MARKHAM, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

### *Sanitary Inspector :*

MR. H. MADDOCK, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

### *Public Health Clerk :*

MRS. W. SMITH.

## **ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1954.**

**To the Chairman and Members of the  
Stourport-on-Severn Urban District Council.**

MADAM CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of the Urban District for the year 1954.

The Report is divided into the following sections :—

- “ A ” Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.
- “ B ” General Provision of Health Services for the Area.
- “ C ” Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.
- “ D ” Housing.
- “ E ” Inspection and Supervision of Food.
- “ F ” Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases.

### **MAIN OCCUPATIONS OF THE AREA.**

The principal Industries comprise the manufacture of carpets, ceramic insulators, blackplate and bright strip, cast iron hinges and holloware, chains for many purposes, wire cables, fans, forges, furnaces, woodwork, valves and valve accessories, an old established vinegar works, and several firms engaged in the storage and distribution of petrol and oil. In addition there is one of the largest power stations in the Midlands.

## SECTION "A."

AREA IN ACRES	....	....	....	....	....	3218
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (end of 1954) according to Rate Books	....	....	....	....	....	3297
RATEABLE VALUE	....	....	....	....	....	£58,076
SUM REPRESENTED BY ONE PENNY RATE	....	....	....	....	....	£233
REGISTRAR GENERAL'S ESTIMATE OF RESIDENT POPULATION (mid-1954)	....	....	....	....	....	10,580

### LIVE BIRTHS.

LIVE BIRTHS.				TOTALS			
				Male	Female	1954	1953
LEGITIMATE	....	....	....	90	101	191	197
ILLEGITIMATE	....	....	....	8	1	9	6
				98	102	200	203

THE BIRTH RATE per 1,000 estimated population for the Urban District was .... 18.9 19.5

THE BIRTH RATE for England and Wales for the same period was .... 15.2 15.5

### STILL BIRTHS.

				Male	Female	1954	1953
LEGITIMATE	....	....	....	3	1	4	4
ILLEGITIMATE	....	....	....	1	1	2	1
				4	2	6	5

THE STILL BIRTH rate per 1,000 civilian population was .... .56 .48

THE STILL BIRTH RATE per 1,000 total live and still births for England and Wales for the same period was .... 24.0

### DEATHS.

				Male	Female	1954	1953
				51	49	100	82
The Death rate per 1,000 estimated population was						9.35	7.88
The Death rate for the whole of England and Wales per 1,000 population was				....	....	11.3	11.4
Maternity Mortality Rate for the year per 1,000 births (live and still) was				....	....	Nil	Nil
Maternity Mortality Rate for England and Wales for the same period was				....	....	0.69	0.76

## Deaths of Infants under 1 year :

	Male	Female	1954	1953
Legitimate ....	5	5	10	8
Illegitimate ....	—	—	—	—
	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 10	<hr/> 8

The Infant Mortality Rate for the year was .... 50.0 39.4

The Infant Mortality Rate for the same period for  
England and Wales was .... 25.5 26.8

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .... 12 23

Deaths from Measles (all ages) .... Nil Nil

Deaths from Whooping Cough .... Nil Nil

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) .... Nil Nil

**Causes of Death** (including Transferable Deaths).

Ref. No.	Males	Females
3. Syphilitic disease ....	—	1
6. Meningo-coccal infections ....	1	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ....	1	—
11. „ „ lung, bronchus ....	2	—
12. „ „ breast ....	—	2
13. „ „ uterus ....	—	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ....	4	2
16. Diabetes ....	1	—
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ....	6	7
18. Coronary disease, angina ....	12	8
19. Hypertension with heart disease ....	1	2
20. Other heart disease ....	8	10
21. Other circulatory disease ....	—	1
23. Pneumonia ....	3	1
24. Bronchitis ....	—	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ....	1	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis....	—	1
31. Congenital malformations ....	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ....	5	7
34. All other accidents ....	4	3
35. Suicide ....	1	—

## SECTION "B."

### GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

#### Laboratory Services.

Producer samples of milk and water are examined by the County Laboratory, Worcester, together with food for chemical analysis. The major part of the bacteriological and pathological work is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Worcester Royal Infirmary.

#### Ambulance Service.

This service is administered by the County Council as Local Health Authority, and based in Kidderminster. An ambulance for infectious cases is stationed at Hayley Green Isolation Hospital (under the control of the Regional Hospital Board).

#### Hospitals.

All hospitals are administered by the Midland Regional Hospital Board, through their Management Committee. The Kidderminster General Hospital receives the majority of hospital patients from this district. The Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital provides the district and surrounding area with maternity beds.

Cases admitted during the year	....	....	....	350
Women delivered	....	....	....	281
Infants born alive	....	....	....	275
Infant deaths	....	....	....	4
Infants stillborn	....	....	....	6
Maternal deaths	....	....	....	Nil
Cases of Puerperal Pyrexia	....	....	....	10
Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum	....	....	....	Nil

#### Infectious Diseases.

Beds for Infectious Diseases are provided at Hayley Green Isolation Hospital, Halesowen; 8 cases from Stourport-on-Severn Urban district were admitted during the year, details of which are as follows :—

Measles	....	....	2
Scarlet Fever	....	....	4
Whooping Cough	....	....	2

#### Tuberculosis.

Out-patient treatment is provided at the Kidderminster Hospital Dispensary where Dr. Cronin attends on Tuesday evenings, Wednesday mornings and Thursday afternoons. In-patients' treatment is arranged at Knightwick Sanatorium and at St. Wulstan's Sanatorium, Malvern. Prevention and after-care remain the responsibility of the Local Health Authority, and the service is administered locally by the After-care Sub-Committee of the Divisional Area Health Committee.

### **Venereal Diseases.**

Treatment and "follow-up" are carried out at the following :—  
Kidderminster and District General Hospital.  
Worcester Royal Infirmary.  
Other neighbouring Hospitals as required.

### **Nursing in the Home.**

This service is administered by the Local Health Authority. There are :—

- (i) Two Nurses and one part-time relief who deal principally with Midwifery and General Nursing. A car is provided.
- (ii) A whole-time Health Visitor and School Nurse who attends school medical inspections, treats minor ailments at the school clinic, and visits cases of mental defect. She visits infants and children in the home and is responsible for their welfare from 14 days until they attend school at 5 years when she continues to supervise under the school scheme. She attends all Infant Welfare Clinics in this district. A whole-time Health Visitor/School Nurse who supervises the upper part of Burlish Estate and the County Modern School and also attends the Infant Welfare Centre Clinic at the Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital.
- (iii) A whole-time Health Visitor who visits cases of Tuberculosis.

### **Clinics.**

Ante-Natal Clinics are held every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon at the Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital, in charge of Doctors MacArthur, C. Mackie, Winter, Black, W. T. Mackie and Matron respectively. A clinic is also held by the District Midwives on the second and fourth Monday in each month.

### **Areley Kings.**

An Infant Welfare Centre, in charge of Dr. Winter, is held in the Parish Hall, Areley Kings, on the second and fourth Thursday afternoon. Children under five are immunised at these Clinics and Vaccination is carried out as required.

## **SECTION "C."**

### **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

#### **Water Supply.**

The majority of dwelling houses in the area are supplied with water from the Council's mains. The source of this supply is Mount Pleasant, Bewdley.

Samples taken regularly in conjunction with the Borough of Bewdley for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination have given satisfactory results. The water was found to be satisfactory, both in quality and quantity, and there is no plumbo-solvent action.

Mains extensions have been carried out on the Walshes Estate as required by the new Council houses constructed during the year.

## **Drainage and Sewerage.**

Disposal of sewage at the Oldington Disposal Works used jointly with the Boroughs of Kidderminster and Bewdley has continued satisfactorily.

Sewer extensions were carried out on the Walshes Estate as required by housing construction. A sewer extension has been provided in the Astley Cross area to allow for closet conversion and connections in this district. It is hoped that a further length will be laid during the coming year.

## **SECTION "D."**

### **Housing.**

116 Houses were completed by the Council during the year and 46 by private enterprise.

Number of Council Houses in Urban District	....	....	884
Number of hutted dwellings requisitioned by Council			253
Number of houses requisitioned by Council	....	....	Nil
Number of Applicants for Council Houses	....	....	298
Number of above Applicants who are living in lodgings			145
Approximate total number of persons represented by Application list	....	....	894

With regard to houses considered unfit for human habitation in the district, one Closing Order was made.

Number of families rehoused from condemned properties 16.

### **Burlish Estate.**

The experiments to find the cause and method of prevention of dampness in these bungalows did not prove fruitful.

The Council have been asked by the Ministry and have agreed to arrange their re-housing programme in such a way as to complete closure and demolition of all these dwellings within the next 3—5 years.

### **Titton and Walshes Farm Areas.**

- (a) The policy with regard to the use of the Titton Shack Area has not yet been decided.
- (b) Walshes Farm Camping Site is now licensed and the owner has provided a piped water supply, a block of chemical closets and a supply of dustbins, which the Council's staff empty frequently.

### **Houseboats.**

During the past year no nuisance has arisen from the occupation of the houseboats in the Canal Basins.

## SECTION "E."

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

#### **Ice Cream Manufacture.**

The number of manufacturers of Ice Cream on the Register is 5 and the number of Retailers of Ice Cream 36. Regular samples are being taken from all the Manufacturers and these have proved satisfactory.

#### **Food Poisoning.**

No outbreaks occurred during the year.

#### **Adulteration of Foods.**

Mr. Spencer, Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, Worcester-shire County Council, reports that 112 milk samples, 89 miscellaneous samples and 9 drug samples were taken for analysis during the year.

Milk samples reported against	....	....	21
Miscellaneous samples reported against	....	....	7
Drug samples reported against	....	....	1

There was one prosecution in respect of butter containing excess water, the case being found proven and the packers of the butter were fined £20, with £2 2s. 0d. costs.

In addition, 175 samples of pasteurised milk were taken at a Dairy in Bewdley which retails a considerable quantity of milk in the Stourport-on-Severn Urban District, and all were found to be satisfactory.

## SECTION "F."

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

#### **Diphtheria Immunisation.**

The number of children immunised for the first time during the year, either at Clinics, Schools, or by General Practitioners, was as follows :—

1. Pre-School Children	....	....	153
2. School Children	....	....	12
3. Reinforcing doses	....	....	114
			279

#### **General.**

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year are shown in the following table :—

Diseases.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Measles	334	2	—
Whooping Cough	75	2	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever	42	4	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	13	—	—
Acute Primary Pneumonia	4	—	—

The incidence of measles has continued to be high. There has been a fall in the number of cases of whooping cough but it is not yet clear whether this is due to protective immunisation.

The majority of the cases of scarlet fever were very mild.

**Tuberculosis.**

The following table gives particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from the disease in the area during the year :

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	7	2	1	—	—	—	—	—

**Mass Radiography Service.**

The Dudley Mobile Unit visited this area at the beginning of the year, 1,114 persons were examined and three new active cases were discovered. Seven non-tuberculous conditions were found and the patients were referred to their doctors.

**Conclusion.**

The Council continue to make good progress in providing houses for those in need.

With the de-control of meat supplies in July it became necessary for the Council to licence three private slaughterhouses to meet the needs of the district. It is essential that the Health Department keep them under close supervision, and after this initial period they have been worked satisfactorily without causing nuisance. The meat has been of a much improved quality.

I should like to thank the Chairman, all Members of the Council, and the Council's Staff for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. W. MARKHAM.

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1954.

**To the Chairman and Members of the  
Stourport-on-Severn Urban District Council.**

LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1954.

There were a number of changes in the legislation affecting public health; the most heralded being the Housing (Repairs and Rents Acts) 1954 which was received with very mixed feelings. This Act is intended to relieve the problem of repairs to rent controlled houses and to facilitate the clearance of slums, but the fact that no applications had been received by the end of the year for certificates of disrepair seems to indicate that very few landlords are prepared to bring their property to a satisfactory state whereby they could claim increased rents.

Following the de-control of meat supplies in July three slaughterhouses came into use, and due to the fact that slaughtering was carried out mainly during the evenings and week-ends, a considerable amount of overtime had to be worked on meat inspection.

I would like to thank all members of the Staff and Council for their help and co-operation throughout the year.

I am,

Madam Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. MADDOCK.

## **Refuse Collection.**

The further expansion of the Walshes Farm Estate added considerably to the work of the collectors, but a weekly collection was maintained throughout except at statutory holidays when the routine is unavoidably upset. The newly-erected "People's" houses presented a particular problem, owing to the fact that the bin had to be carried through a store which in effect formed part of the house, and if the tenant was away from home no collection was made, or alternatively the bin had to be carried through a neighbour's house. It was, therefore, found necessary to erect dwarf walls at the front of the house to enable the refuse bins to be housed in a conveniently accessible spot.

The provision of refuse bins at tenanted properties still remains a most difficult problem, and the motley collection of receptacles used at these premises seriously retards the refuse collectors in their work, as well as being most unhygienic.

It seems that the only solution to the problem is for the local authority to provide bins as part of the refuse collection service, or adopt the scheme whereby a charge of 5/- per year may be made on

all properties where the local authority provides a bin, the charge being recoverable at the same time as the rates.

The two Shelvoke and Drewry refuse vehicles continue to give satisfactory service.

### **Refuse Disposal.**

The disposal of refuse is by means of controlled tipping on land adjoining Hartlebury Common. The Karrier Bantam Low Loader which was delivered in February has been principally engaged on the collection of covering material which has resulted in the tip being maintained in a much more satisfactory state.

During the summer months tip dressing is applied regularly in an effort to minimise the fly nuisance.

An oil pipe line which passes underneath the north-east corner of the tip developed a serious leak in the early summer with the result that the tip became soaked in oil and, because of the serious risk of fire, tipping was stopped at that particular spot and we were forced to commence tipping on the last field of the three which formed the original tipping area.

### **Trade Refuse.**

Collections are made from certain trade premises on request, and the actual cost recovered.

### **Cleansing of Pail Closets and Cesspools.**

Cesspools are emptied free of charge on request and pail closets are emptied weekly, this work being carried out by the Dennis Cesspool Gully emptier.

There still remains approximately one hundred pail closets in the district and there seems little chance of conversion to a water carriage system of drainage as this would involve the provision of new sewage pumping stations and long lengths of pumping main.

As well as dealing with all the cesspools and pail closets in this area, the vehicle has been employed on several occasions by adjoining authorities and this resulted in a revenue of £177 10s. 0d. for the year.

#### **Outdoor Staff**

- 2 Refuse Freighter driver/loader
- 7 Loaders
- 2 Tip Men (one part-time)
- 1 Salvage baler
- 1 Cesspool/Gulley emptier driver
- 1 Cesspool/Gulley emptier attendant.

### **Salvage.**

As indicated in my last Annual Report, the demand for waste paper increased steadily throughout the year and we were able once again to dispose of all the waste paper we could collect. The collection of waste paper from shops and factories was re-commenced and householders were urged through the press to put out all paper and cardboard by the dust bin for collection by the refuse collectors.

Heavy scrap metal continued in great demand but the market for rags slackened, which resulted in a drop in price.

Although little profit is made from the sale of salvaged materials, we must take into account the fact that by making a separate collection from shops and factories and segregating waste paper from household refuse we are considerably reducing the amount of material to be disposed of by controlled tipping, thus lengthening the life of the refuse tip.

#### SUMMARY OF SALVAGED MATERIAL COLLECTED AND DISPOSED OF DURING 1954.

				Weight.			Amount Realised.		
				Tons.	cwts.	qrs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	....	....	....	74	3	2	494	3	11
Scrap Metal	....	....	....	21	16	0	62	12	2
Rags	....	....	....				18	0	2
Total						....	£574	16	3

#### Rodent Control.

The Council's Rodent Operative continued throughout the year his efforts to rid the town of rats and mice. Many more householders are taking advantage of the free service offered, with the result that the number of major infestations to be dealt with were considerably reduced.

Regular attention was paid to the Council's refuse tip, and by the end of the year very few rats remained.

#### SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT DURING 1954.

Type of Premises.				Number of Treatments.	
Local Authority's Property	....	....	....	24	
Business Premises	....	....	....	24	
Dwelling Houses	....	....	....	378	

#### Public Conveniences

The amount of public sanitary accommodation in the town was augmented during the summer by the opening of a block of ladies' toilets adjoining the Crown Hotel Car Park, which were originally provided by the proprietors of the hotel for the use of patrons, but the total accommodation available still proved totally inadequate to deal with the large crowds which visit Stourport on most fine week-ends in the summer.

It is, therefore, most essential that every effort be made to provide further accommodation for persons using the Council's Car Park on the Severn Meadows as soon as practicable.

It is most unfortunate that there are among the community a number of persons who think that the doors and walls of public lavatories are the ideal places for placing on record the designs of

their sordid imaginations, or worse still to do some act of structural damage to mark their visit.

It is more unfortunate still that the culprits can very rarely be found, to be publicly exposed in Court, and that the cost of repairing the damage has to be borne by the ratepayers in general.

The task of keeping the Bridge Street Public Conveniences in a clean state during a busy day is an extremely difficult one, but I have inspected these conveniences on Sunday evenings on several occasions and always found them in an excellent state of cleanliness which I think reflects great credit on the attendants.

### **Atmospheric Pollution.**

The pollution of the atmosphere by smoke and fumes from the burning of coal still remains one of the major public health problems to be dealt with in this country.

Over a period of years a lot of time and money has been spent on providing a pure water supply for the population, and great steps forward have been made in the food hygiene field. It is hoped that with the help of the promised "Clean Air Bill" the same improvement will take place in the purity of the air we breathe.

Throughout the year regular attention was paid to the factory chimneys in this district and where nuisances occurred the management were informed.

The engineers of the Ministry of Fuel and Power Fuel Efficiency service, who are always ready to assist local authorities with their smoke problems, visited most of the factories in the area, following which there was a considerable decrease in the amount of smoke emitted from certain of the chimneys.

At the end of the year there still remained the problem of excessive smoke emission from the Foundry and from the Enamelware Works in Baldwin Road, but I feel sure that with the co-operation of the firms concerned an all-round improvement can be made during the ensuing year.

One cannot overlook the pollution from another source, namely the fumes from the diesel engines of road transport vehicles. This type of nuisance is particularly evident during the sugar beet season when farm tractors towing, each heavily laden with this commodity, can be seen pouring black smoke and fumes from their exhaust pipes as they climb the gradient from Bridge Street.

The remedy for such nuisances is in the hands of the police.

### **Housing.**

August 1954 saw the introduction of the Housing Rent & Repairs Act. This controversial piece of legislation was, the Government stated, designed to clear away the slums and to encourage landlords to repair and improve their property.

During the five months it has been in operation no owners that I am aware of have attempted to have their properties placed in good

repair, to enable them to claim the rent increases allowed under the new Act, and first signs are that the problem of obtaining essential repairs to rent controlled properties will not be eased in any way by the provisions of this new legislation.

It has had the effect of interesting more people in Improvement Grants, but all enquiries and applications up to now have been from owner/occupiers, and not landlords, the people the Government hoped to interest.

### SUMMARY OF REPAIRS EFFECTED FOLLOWING PRELIMINARY OR STATUTORY ACTION.

Structural Repairs	....	....	....	....	....	7
Roof Repairs	....	....	....	....	....	7
Eavesgutter Repaired or Renewed	....	....	....	....	....	3
Rainwater Pipes Repaired or Renewed	....	....	....	....	....	2
Windows and Doors Repaired	....	....	....	....	....	3
Floors Repaired	....	....	....	....	....	1
Firegrates Renewed	....	....	....	....	....	3
Rooms disinfected after infectious disease	....	....	....	....	....	6
W.C. Pans Renewed	....	....	....	....	....	2
W.C. Fittings Repaired or Renewed	....	....	....	....	....	6
W.C. Structures Repaired	....	....	....	....	....	2
Water Supply Improved	....	....	....	....	....	8
Drains Unblocked and Cleansed	....	....	....	....	....	13
Drains Repaired	....	....	....	....	....	2
New Drainage System Installed	....	....	....	....	....	1
Houses Disinfected	....	....	....	....	....	3
New Dustbins Provided	....	....	....	....	....	2
Accumulation Removed	....	....	....	....	....	4

### Houses Incapable of Repair at Reasonable Expense.

Closing Order—Section 12 Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act	....	....	....	....	....	1
Houses Demolished	....	....	....	....	....	1
Undertaking Not to Re-let	....	....	....	....	....	1

### FOOD.

#### 1. Meat.

Following the decontrol of meat supplies in July, three slaughterhouses came into operation and every effort was made to inspect the carcasses of all animals slaughtered. This has entailed regular visits during two or three evenings and on most Sundays and, in consequence, many hours overtime have been worked.

MEAT CONDEMNED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

	Head	Lungs	Liver	Heart	Mesentery & Intestine	Spleen
Beasts	1	4	8 Part	—	—	—
			4 Whole			
Sheep	—	5	7 Part 9 Whole	2	—	—
Pigs	2	5	4 Part 3 Whole	2	—	—

TOTAL NUMBER OF ANIMALS INSPECTED.

Beasts	Sheep	Pigs	Calves
63	472	131	18

2. Other Food.

Sixty-seven visits were made to premises to inspect food thought to be unfit for human consumption. The following articles were condemned:—

Canned Meat	....	....	74
„ Soups	....	....	20
„ Fruits	....	....	282
„ Vegetables	....	....	97
„ Milk	....	....	42
„ Fish	....	....	53
„ Cream		....	92
Cheese	....	....	27 lbs.
Beef	....	....	21 lbs.
Pork	....	....	9 lbs.
Cake	....	....	73 lbs.
Bacon	....	....	10 lbs.
Cooked Ham	....	....	10 lbs.
Beef Sausage	....	....	47 lbs.
Pork Sausage	....	....	47 lbs.
Jellied Veal	....	....	9 lbs.
Chutney	....	....	1
Coconut	....	....	18 tins
Black Puddings	....	....	12
Fish Cakes	....	....	49
Pork Pies	....	....	33

### 3. Milk Supply.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) (No. 2) Order, 1954, which came into force on the 1st of October, 1954, required that all milk sold by retail in this district must be specially designated milk, that is, either Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised or Sterilised .

Number of Registered Distributors	....	8
Number of Registered Dairies	....	3

#### Licences Granted.

Dealer Licences :

Tuberculin Tested	....	....	....	3
Pasteurised	....	....	....	2
Sterilised	....	....	....	2

Supplementary Licences :

Tuberculin Tested	....	....	....	4
Pasteurised	....	....	....	4
Sterilised	....	....	....	4

### 4. Ice Cream.

Number of manufacturers on Register	....	5
Number of retailers on Register	....	36

### DETAILS OF SAMPLES SUBMITTED FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Total Samples	Provisional Grade.			
	I	II	III	IV
4	4	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

By far the majority of ice cream sold in the town is pre-packed and manufactured by the larger concerns who keep a strict watch on the manufacture of their products to ensure purity and quality.

Of the persons at present making ice cream in this district three use the hot mix method and one the cold mix.

### 5. Food & Drugs Act Sec. 14. Registration of Premises used for the manufacture of preserved foods :

Number on Register	....	....	6
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At the present time two of the persons registered are not manufacturing at all, three are only manufacturing sausages, whilst the remaining one is making the full range of cooked meats, etc.

It was not found necessary to take any action during the year.

Number of Inspections made	....	15
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### Distribution of Food.

It was found necessary during the year to take informal action in two cases where bread and confectionery delivery vans were observed travelling along dusty roads with both rear doors open, thus subjecting the bread, etc. to pollution.

This action achieved the desired results.

## **Slaughterhouses.**

In the very early part of the year the Minister of Food signified his intention of decontrolling meat supplies in the following July, and making local authorities responsible for seeing that adequate slaughtering facilities were available for the needs of the butchers in their area.

This action was contrary to that expected by most people, who thought that the day of the small slaughterhouse in a back yard was gone for ever, and some authorities where all the private slaughterhouses had been converted to some other use in anticipation of centralisation were left with a very sticky problem.

In this district three slaughterhouses remained in existence, without being licensed during control, and the occupiers of all three applied to be re-licensed.

Two licences were granted and one refused, and later in the year a further licence was granted where certain buildings had been altered for use as a slaughterhouse.

These premises have proved adequate for the needs of Stourport.

It was significant that with the end of control the appearance and quality of the meat displayed by butchers showed a great improvement.

## **SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933 & 1951.**

Consequent upon the decontrol of meat supplies eight persons applied for licences to slaughter animals as required by the above Act. All eight were granted.

## **PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.**

There are two premises licensed under the above Act to keep a pet shop.

## **Canal Boats.**

The canal is still only used for pleasure traffic and consequently no canal boat inspections were made. I would like to record here the fact that the Engine Basin, which has been a source of nuisance for a number of years, was thoroughly dredged and cleaned during the year.

## **Infectious Disease.**

Number of enquiries made	....	16
Number of rooms disinfected	....	6

Disinfectant is provided free on request to the occupier of any house where a case of infectious disease has occurred.

## **Offensive Trades.**

There are no offensive trades carried on in this district, but we are still attended by the travelling rag and bone dealers exchanging anything from sweets to goldfish for rags.

## Water Supply.

There are still a number of properties, particularly in the region of Lower Heath and Severn Side, who have to rely on shallow wells for their water supply.

One sample of well water was submitted for bacteriologia examination and found to be satisfactory.

Two samples of mains water, which had passed through the storage tank on Burlish No. 2 Estate, were submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination and found to be satisfactory.

## Sewage Disposal.

Sewage is disposed of at the joint disposal works at Kidderminster.

One extension to the sewer was completed at Astley Cross, to cater for houses recently incorporated with this district.

## Places of Entertainment.

It was found necessary to serve an informal notice requiring the cleansing and redecoration of the public sanitary accommodation at one of these establishments.

### NOTICES SERVED.

#### PRELIMINARY NOTICES :

Public Health Act, 1936	....	....	39
Housing Act, 1936	....	....	7
Food and Drugs Act	....	....	2
Factories Act, 1937	....	....	3
			<hr/>
			51
			<hr/>

#### STATUTORY NOTICES :

Housing Act, 1936, Sec. 9	....	....	2
Public Health Act, 1936, Sec. 93	....	....	15
“ “ “ “ “ 45	....	....	1
“ “ “ “ “ 44	....	....	1
			<hr/>
			19
			<hr/>

### FACTORIES ACT 1937.

Total Number of Factories on Register	....	54
Factories with Mechanical Power	....	50
Factories with no Mechanical Power	....	4

The following is a summary of inspections made during the year with details of defects found and remedied:—

Total number of Inspections	....	36
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<i>Sanitary Conveniences.</i>	<i>Defects found.</i>	<i>Defects Remedied.</i>
(a) Insufficient .....	.	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ....	4	4
(c) Not separate for sexes ....	—	—
(d) Other offences ....	—	—

**Section 34.** 4 Certificates as to means of escape in case of fire were issued

**Outworkers.** There is one person in the town employed on the manufacture of gloves.

REGISTER OF FACTORIES (31st December, 1954).

Blacksmith .....	1
Builders Yard .....	3
Battery Reconstruction .....	1
Builders .....	2
Chaff Cutters .....	1
Carpet Manufacturers .....	1
Coach Builders .....	1
Civil Engineers .....	2
Engineers .....	1
Food Manufacturers .....	10
Furnace Makers .....	1
Gravel Pits .....	2
Gas Works .....	1
Iron Foundry .....	1
Manufacture of Enamel Ware .....	1
Manufacture of Chains .....	1
Milliner .....	1
Manufacture of Wood Articles .....	1
Manufacture of Ceramic Insulators .....	1
Manufacture of Electrical Components .....	2
Making of Lock gates .....	1
Metal Works .....	2
Motor and Motor Cycle Engineers .....	4
Power Plant .....	1
Petrol Depots .....	2
Repair of Canal Boats .....	1
Steel Rolling Mills .....	1
Tannery .....	1
Timber Merchants .....	4
Vinegar Works .....	1
Wire Manufacturers .....	1

# SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

1954.

Houses let in lodgings	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Housing Consolidated Regulations—No. of Houses Recorded								6
Housing Act—Inspection on Complaint	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	17
Housing Act—Routine	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	44
Public Health Act—on complaint	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	86
Public Health Act—routine	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	154
Revisits—Housing Act	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	54
„ Public Health Act	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	86
„ Others	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Work in progress	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	31
Infectious Diseases Inquiries	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	16
Food Premises	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	22
Ice Cream Manufacturers and Dealers	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	15
Itinerant Vendors	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	21
Shops (Shops Act)	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Factories	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	36
Places of Entertainment	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Dairies	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Camping Sites	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	12
Refuse Tip	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Public Conveniences	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	178
Survey for Rodent Infestation	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	76
Smoke Observation	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	18
Miscellaneous Visits and Inspections	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	321
Visits to inspect food	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	67
Slaughterhouses—Routine	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	39
„ Meat Inspection	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	102
Pet Shops	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
								<hr/> 1597 <hr/>







